

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4378
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2001
RESUMPTION OF FIRING BY PAK
BHUPENDRASINH PRABHATSINH SOLANKI

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Pakistan has resumed firing in Kargil and Poonch sector after the Agra Summit;
- (b) if so, whether the Government have taken up this matter with Pakistan;
- (c) if so, the details thereof ; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) Pakistan frequently resorts to unprovoked firing along the Actual Ground Position Line (AGPL), Line of Control (LoC) and International Boundary (IB) in Jammu & Kashmir. Some of these incidents of unprovoked firing are aimed at providing covering fire to terrorists that are being infiltrated into India.

(b)-(d) Government have on several occasions reiterated to Pakistan the importance of strengthening peace and security along the IB, LoC and AGPL. On 6th July 2001 Government instructed the Director General of Military Operations to seek a meeting with his Pakistani counterpart for talks, so that processes for peace along the LoC and AGPL can be strengthened and stabilized. Pakistan's response in this connection is still awaited.